

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20510**

November 26, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We write to request information regarding why Minnesota transportation projects did not receive any funding through the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program this year. To provide clarity to the many competitive applicants from our state, we ask that DOT provide insight into the grant selection process.

Since the inception of the Transportation Investment Generating Economy Recovery (TIGER) program in 2010, discretionary federal transportation funding from TIGER, and now BUILD, has played an integral role in improving the safety of Minnesota's transportation infrastructure, including funding for rebuilding bridges, roads, and highway interchanges. Over the years, the state of Minnesota, its counties, and cities have submitted competitive grant applications to address critical transportation needs in the state, and have been awarded these funds.

While DOT awarded \$900 million in BUILD grants this fiscal year, Minnesota did not receive any funding while other states received up to three grants. As a result, Minnesota communities were deprived of a key opportunity to improve the safety and efficiency of transportation networks across our state as well as the economic benefits of direct investments in reliable infrastructure.

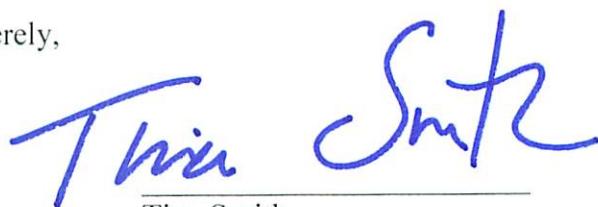
We respectfully request that you share with us the determination behind the merits and compared benefits of projects against Minnesota applications. As you consider award funding for next year's BUILD grant program, we urge you to provide clarity to applicants about their projects to improve Minnesota's transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Tina Smith  
United States Senator

Collin C. Peterson

Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

Tom Emmer

Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress

Angie Craig

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress

J. Hagedorn

Jim Hagedorn  
Member of Congress

Dean Phillips

Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

Pete Stauber

Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress